(b) and (c) No such incident has been reported.

Retrenchment of workers by privatised PSUs

3061. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a large number of complaints towards retrenchment of workers by some privatized Public Sector Undertaking Companies; and

(b) if so, Government's response thereto and the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for reversing growing unemployment in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) During a meeting of the Hon'ble Prime Minister with Central Trade Unions on 18th October, 2002, some of the trade union leaders had raised the issue of retrenchment in some privatized PSUs. In view of this a team of officials is being sent to these privatized PSUs to assess the impact of disinvestment on Labour.

While employment opportunities in some traditional industries may have decreased, those have increased in many upcoming areas such as Information Technology, Tourism, Financial Services, Construction, etc. Accordingly, the growth strategy of the Tenth Plan lays emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are likely to create high quality employment opportunities.

Kendriya Bhandar

†3062 SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to divide Kendriya Bhandar in to different categories to extending its outlets and to improve its level;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when a decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) In order to attract more customers and increase sales,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Kendriya Bhandar has adopted a programme of modernizing its stores depending upon size and items sold. Recently Kendriya Bhandar has opened its first modernized store at Netaji Nagar, New Delhi. It has been decided to assess its overall performance for some time before taking up the modernization of other stores.

Promotion of Under Secretaries in CSS

3063. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in CSS, junior Under Secretaries continue to officiate as Deputy Secretaries ignoring the claim of seniors who have not been promoted despite representations submitted by them and this has been a cause of heart burning amongst them;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that in order to remove such anomaly Government in the past promoted senior Under Secretaries *vis-a-vis* their juniors and that this should be the last batch for such promotions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) On the basis of Select List of Grade I of CSS for the year 1989 and 1990, certain posts of Under Secretaries were upgraded as Deputy Secretaries as a measure personel to the officers. The representations received from Under Secretaries, senior to a few Direct Recruit Section Officers, figureing in Select List of Grade I of CSS for the later years have been examined. Administratively it has not been considered feasible top further upgrade the post of Under Secretary as Deputy Secretary as a measure personal to them.

Violation of reservation policy in promotion

3064. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under reservation policy of Government, there is a provision of promotion for SC/ST Officers to the lowest rung of Group 'A' post;